FRANCES

STARR.

BELASCO-JAN. 18th

By JULIA CHANDLER MANZ,

Announcement made last week in New York of the pooling of the opposing theatrical interests of Klaw and Erlanger and the Shuberts did not come altogether as a surfrise to those who keep in close touch with the theater, for the wind has blown in this direction for some weeks past. For more than a year there has been a working agreement between the former foes which covered the cities of Boston and Chicago, but extended no further. Now the two producing concerns have become one, so far as the control of the theaters and attractions throughout the United States is concerned, with the exception of New York itself. In the metropolis the Shuberts will contime, as formerly, the control of their own theaters, tenanting them with their own attractions, because the large number of independent theater owners in New York makes the consolidation of dramatic interests there a practical impossibility, but the playhouses throughout the country which have been heretofore "booked" by either Klad & Erlanger productions, or from the Shubert offices, will be controlled hereafter from the one office of consolidated interests in New York. Whether this office will be that occupied at present by the Klaw and Erlanger forces, or a new office to be established has not yet been announced, and this is a minor point. The main issue is, of course, the termination of the rivalry between the two powers which has meant cut-throat business in the past.

For several years efforts have been put forth, at various times, to effect a more amicable arrangement between the leading theatrical interests of America than has existed. Financially prominent men in the theatrical world have been keenly interested in the present consolidation, and a decided step was taken in this direction when the Shuberts and Klaw and Erlanger agreed not to fight each other in Boston and Chicago where the competition between the two factors had proven ruinous to each.

The current season has made the extension of this agreement inevitable. Business in theaters outside of New York has been so unprofitable this winter that everyone connected with the production of plays has realized for several months that something would have to be done, particularly after the recent tragic distress of the Liebler Company, which went into bankruptcy because the public refused to sufficiently patronize George Tyler's artistic and pretentious offerings.

Following close on the heels of the Liebler catastrophe came the announcement, some ten days ago, that Harrison Grey Piake, one of the ament, most gencrous, and ambitious of producing manugers, had been forced to the wall. Mr. Fiske who has been the builder and explotter of a half score of the most despited of a half score of the most described plays—elaborately, ornately and sumptuously staged—found himself with accumulated debts of almost \$100.000; and with several such unprofitable ventures his hands that he was compelled his belongings and ask the ald of the courts in the

The final scene of Mr. Fiske's distress came some ten days ago in New York when the Phylicuse doors were closed, and Mile. Lydia Loupakova, and the company surrounding her in the presentation of "Just Herself," at this theater found themselves suddenly divested comployment. Critics praised the artists of Mr. Unke's production, and lauded his new star, but the public would have or of either, and so it was that Mr Fisk -- like George C. Tyler and others of high and artistic purpose -- was forced to pay the penalty, adding further reason the most wise decision reached last by the Shuberts and Klaw and

Erlanger public was violently resentful when some weeks ago. William A. Brady asserted that the return of financial prosperity to the theater could only be achieved through giving theatergoers crook plays, or prurient, unclean trash, declaring that patrons of the theater do want-and will not patronize with sufficient liberality-those elaborate and tistic productions that should make the theater an institution worth our serious

Defenders of public taste were furious. There such that leady's statement was date carment in three pieces, made by date carment. They have daily they raved our special designer from material in the right on doing every thing within their power to prove his assertion true, for right now "lafe, a crook play under Mr. Brady's own admission, is being spice-didly supported in Nea York, and the Song of Songs," charged with being the most indecent those that has held the loants in the history of the theater, promises to break all New York records cudurance runs, while the producers of more recently, of Paradi-e, have gone into

fould there be a more expressive commaple in the sele-nent I think not

But to return to the subject of the Shubert-iclaw and Erlanger combine (from wh) h I have somewhat digressed) fand its effect upon the theatrical situa-

One of the first sters which will be taken almost immediately by the con-solidated firms will be the abolishment of nany of the first-class theaters throughout the country as showhouses for "legi-timate" attractions. Many cities which have had a Klav and Crianger house, as timate well as a theater tenanted by the Shu-bert shows, will be reduced to a single theater for their now combined interand rivalry will, of course, cease to exist between these hitherto warring fac-Washington is inevitable, although thus far the theater to be affected here has not been announced, nor have we anything more certain than speculation upon which to so in determining its future fate. It is a pretty safe guess, however, to conclude that the playhouse here which closes its doors to productions will be tenanted by either a permanent speedily to the storehouse. npany or else be given over to

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK.

National-"Potash and Perlmut-Helasco-"Today." Columbia - Film Production "I nele Sam at Work." Poli's-"The Argyle Case."

Keith's-Vaudeville. Gayety-Billy Watson Casino-Vaudeville. Majestic - "Australian Beau-

interesting than the puerile "Girl of Girls" and the inconsequential "Prodigal Husband" which represented the main amusement features of the week

This week we are to see, at the New National Theater, the irresistible weekly serial of Montague Glass, "Potash and Perlmutter," which appeared in the Saturday Evening Post, with the certainty of as clean, wholesome, and humorous a stage contribution as we enjoyed in magazine form, for the wit and drollers mischievous humor, and tangled love in-terest of the Hebrew firm has been kept intact and will be brought to us this week along the route of one of the most successful runs both in and outside of

stories by Montague Glass, trimmed a thousand laughs, and guaranteed to tit all sizes and ages."

Nor does it make any difference whether the "garment" was cut and fitted by Mr. Glass himself, or by Charles Klein who suggested the dramatization of the stories to Mr. Woods, or if George V. Hobart, or anyone else helped tailor the "garment" into shape.
It is the "garment" itself that matters,

urance runs, while the producers of a spiendid spectacles as "Kismet," for into this is woven the depth of character of the delightfully droll "Abe and three," and more recently "The Mawress," the little secrets of their race; the quiet rebukes of big and kindly mis in simple beings; fidelity to friend ships; quaint purposes, and little human on the taste of the American a the selection of their amuseare made to live by a company of players peculiarly suited to the portrayal of distinctive character types,

It will interest those who delight in the maint characters to be presented for the irst time in Washington at the National laboration with Charles Kjein, is soon to furnish A. H. Woods with a dramatization of another Potash and Perl

More serious is the nurpose of "Today." the inclodrama by George Broadhurst and Abraham Schromer, which the Manscript Producing Company offers at the Belasco Theater this week, presenting, as does, the curse of the rilken lufe to That this policy will extend to the life of a vain, and shallow woman "Today" was one of the surprises of the last year's dramatic season of New When it was first produced at the York. Forty-eighth Street Theater, October 6, is described by Mr. Woods as "an up 1913, critics so condemned the play-date" garment in three pieces, made

continued success of this drama of con-temporaneous New York life since it left the metropolis is doubtless due to the terrible verity with which the dra-matists have handled their theme, taking us back fifty years to the methods of Emil Augier, who did not hang a glamourous robe of sentimentality about the frail shoulders of the erring woman but sent her to her inevitable doom un

THE CURRENT WEEK.

Nation!-"Potash and Perlmutter." Abe Potash and Wawruss Perlmutter scarcely need an introduction to the theater-goers of this city, Montague Glass' stories in the Saturday Evening this week to know that Mr. Glass, in col- Post in which these simple, laughable, lovable partners were first brought to the attention of the public won immediste recognition from Jew and Gentile alike because of their sincerity and their quaint humor. They were "heart-interest" stories in the truest sense of the word and it was in conserving this heart interest in the dramatization of the stories that A. H. Woods showed managerial genius, for that is the secret of the remarkable stage success of many thousand theater-gores during 'Potash and Perimutter," which comes to the National Theater this week from the George M. Cohan Theater, New York. On the play bill the dramatization 6, is described by Mr. Woods as "an up-towright's frank presentation of the sinful our special designer from material in woman in her barren depravity that prediction was made that the play would go stories by Montague Glass, a description speedily to the storehouse. But again was William A. Brady's your choice as to whether Mr. Glass judgment of public taste proven correct, and again did Mr. Broadhurst's experior not. As a matter of fact that's a little again.

successful runs both in and outside of New York which has been enjoyed by a theatrical entertainment for many a year. Neither A. H. Woods, the producer, nor Mr. Glass, call the piece a place, a system which proved equally effective with "Today," the receipts of which went steadily up night by night laughter the plot itself is serious enough; then the program:

| Successful runs both in and outside of the place of the special place of the size of Mr. John D. when he measures up to Uncle Sam.

| We are stockholders in this corporation, which were steadily up night by night laughter the plot itself is serious enough; then the place of the plot itself is serious enough; the laughter the plot itsel that. ures up to Uncle Sam.

But while the three acts are filled with We are stockholders in this corporaaughter the plot itself is serious enough; tion, which we call, reverentially, Coaughter the plot itself is serious enough; tion, which we call, reverentially, Co-omedy alternates with pathos and many back to back to the serious enough; tion, which we call, reverentially, Co-omedy alternates with pathos and many back to back to the serious enough; tion, which we call, reverentially, Co-omedy alternates with pathos and many back to the serious enough; tion, which we call, reverentially, Co-omedy alternates with pathos and many back to the serious enough; tion, which we call, reverentially, Co-omedy alternates with pathos and many back to the serious enough; tion, which we call, reverentially, Co-omedy alternates with pathos and many back to the serious enough; the limit of the serious enough; the serious enough; the serious enough to the serious enough; the serious enough to th

Belasco-"Today."

emporary New York life by George Broadhurst and Abraham Schomer, at the Belasco Theater this week.

That the love of luxury and personal adornment form the basis of one of the reatest problems American life is conronted with; that idleness among women has reached the pernicious stage; that ments are shown so strange as to be lovellest women of art and history. Flo.
the craze for vulgar display and out- almost unbelievable. There is the malirwin will have fine acting support in
doing one's neighbors has developed into chine which is so delicate that it measher latest farcical medium. The Lady a national disease; that the accumula-tion of great wealth has its disadvantages; that the cultivation of the intellect is more soul-satisfying than the mania for sequiring things; all are force-

fully brought out in "Today." The Broadhurst-Schomer play has to lo with the fortunes and misfortunes of a young married couple after the husband has suddenly been stripped of his possessions by business reverses. The wife's failure or inability to adapt herself to their reduced circumstances resuits in the developing of a story that is best described as an intensely human document, and one which commanded the many thousand theater-gores during its

For the Manuscript Producing Com-pany, which sponsors "Today," Harry Von Tilzer, managing director, has secured a cast of unusual attainments Edmund Breese is the featured player and he is supported by Ethel Valertine in the leading feminine role. In addition to Miss Valentine, Mr. Breese's support includes Margaret Robinson, Louise Sydmeth, Grace Thorne Coulter and Bernard A. Reinold.

until it did espacity business, and comedy alternstes with pathos and many lumols, or jocularly, there sam, or new cy-makers of last season—history which have a tear. Pinochic and politics, love buy stork in customs duties and internal was repeated this fall during a long run and law contribute to the rapid suction. Mr. Hroadhurst has never shirked the cloak-cutters take leading parts.

The leading roles will be interpreted property for 38 days of the year, with by Julius Tanner, Julian Rose, Leo Don-

SCENE FROM POTASH

AND

ERLMUTTER

MATIANA

these pictures have the human element-the men behind the guns of office. In the Bureau of Standards experitester which exerts a force of 2,300,000

the strength of a human hair. It would take nearly a full-page to catalogue all the pictures in detail. Malcom Dunn, the lecturer, is an American gentleman: perfectly pelf-contained, master of the situation, clear-cut in utterance, with a diction and pronunciation past week, which show he learned the English language in a good school.

Poll's-"The Argyle Case,"

prepare to let them out at Poli's this week when "The Argyle Case" is to be presented with all the detective parapher- and "Krausemeyer's Christening." of the drama originally at the Criterion Theater. New York, where it ran for both characters be displays his natural

to unearth the mystery surrounding the murder of the wealthy Mr. Argyle. Kay-ton is not disposed to assume charge of the man-hunt until he learns that one she shall be cleared. In his search for the guilty party the detective is led to a counterfeiters' den where he faces a gang of desperate criminals single-handed. He is saved from assassination through the successful use of the famous dictograph. Charles Mackay will be seen in the

stellar role of Kayton, and Miss Kemble will play the part of the beautiful young unjustly suspected of complicity

Keith's-Vandeville.

The B. F. Keith Theater bill this week will be led by Minnie Dupree and cloak-cutters take leading parts.

The leading roles will be interpreted by Julius Tannen. Julian Rose, Leo Donnelly, Caroline Lilja and Julia Brun.

The planet of Mars; that is, if the leading roles will be seen for the first time here in her on the planet of Mars; that is, if the leading roles will be seen for the first time here in her new company. Eddle Leonard, the minstrel, Martians have ears.

Henry W. Savage conceived the scheme Comedian Leonard will be assisted by The Manuscript Producing Company of exhibiting this great corporation to will offer "Today," the drama of contemporary New York life by George is the chief site of operations.

The Manuscript Producing Company of exhibiting this great corporation to Mabel Russell in "Footlight Froities," filled with songs of Mr. Leenard's own muse and with his softshoe dancing muse and with his softshoe dancing The pictures show what every ordinary added. La Milo will reproduce master-tourist can see; the buildings and the pleces of marble and canvas depicting mechanical operations within them. But pleces of marble and canvas depicting Venus, Diana, Phyrnne before the Tri-bunal, Monna Vanna, Lady Godiva as ungarbed for her midnight ride, the fa-mous Rokeby Venus, and others of the her latest farcical medium, "The Lady of the Press," by Edgar Allan Woolf. ures the heat of a candle fifty-three of the Press," by Edgar Allan Woolf, miles away. There is the gigantic power tester which exerts a force of 2,300,000 Dog Comedians: Prof. Ota Cygl. the vio-pounds in one scene and then registers in circuso; Moore and Yates in "Who's Who and Which " and Marlo and Duffy. tune's Garden," Boganny's Funny Bak-ers, and all the other attractions of the

Gayety-Billy Watson's Big Show, At the Gayety Theater this week "Billy Watson's Big Show" will make its first If you have thrills in your system appearance here, with Billy Watson as prepare to let them out at Poll's this the star. He is presenting those two week when "The Argyle Case" is to be funny burlettas, "Krausemeyer in Japan" Wat-Robert Hilliard, the star of the original company, presented "The Argyle on tour. The play is by Harriet Ford and Harvey J. O'Higgins, authors of The Dummy." In this, their earlier success the dramatists had the assistance of William J. Burns, the famous Los Angeles dynamite date of the famous burners of the service of the lest Irish comedians in burlesque today. Besides these two stars, the cast contains the names of such prominent people as Lillian Franklin, Ida Walling. Thirty chorus "Australian or Margaret Newell, Adelaids to the Margaret Newell to the Margaret Newel Just how soon the history-making changes which have recently occurred in the theatrical world will effect a change of policy in any one of the leading local white we wait to see we have the promble of some productions, both new and old, which give hope of something more of extensive advertise.

Just how soon the history-making changes which have recently occurred in the interval world will effect a change of conduct wise to pursue in the matter of fact that's a like seventh occurred in the continuance of the description when the manager adds that this "dramatic ager of a corporation which outranks the technical side showing them how desting an unity truth as the basis of the continuance of the description when the manager adds that this "dramatic ager of a corporation which outranks the technical side showing them how desting and again did Mr. Broadhurst's experior of conduct wise to pursue in the matter of fact that's a life secret between Mr. Glass and Mr. Woods, but there is no ambiguity about the continuance of the description when the manager adds that this "dramatic ager of a corporation which outranks the technical side showing them how desting an unity truth as the basis of the continuance of the description when the manager adds that this "dramatic ager of a corporation which outranks the technical side showing them how desting and of the image of the many feat the manager adds that this "dramatic ager of a corporation which outranks the technical side showing them how desting and of the many feat the dramatists had the assist.

Woodrow Wilson is the general man of the fragmatic ager of a corporation which outranks the technical side showing them how desting a pursue of the many feat the manager adds that this "The Man of the brain of the fragmatic ager of a corporation which outranks the dramatists had the assist.

Woodrow Wilson is the general man of the brain of the fragmatic ager of a corporation which outranks the detective.

The Man of the man again did Mr. Broadhurst of the many feat training th

dready made arrangements for the giving of turkeys, chickens and ducks addition to the usual quoto of gifts and

POLIS'

ALLEN E. MATHES

Cosmos-Vaudeville. "The Haberdashery Girls," headed by Vivian Cook and Walter Herrick, a company of fourteen singers, dancers, show girls and comedians from the realms of the legitimate stage, will present the pretentious musical comedy ever offered at the Cosmos Theater this week as the headline attraction of the best bill ever offered at that house to help celebrate its fifth anniversary. The supporting bill will include H. Ellis Reco company, in the dramatic presentation of the story of Napoleon's only son "L'Algion," entitled "The Eaglet," by George S. Rosener: Aleck Lauder, a of the suspects is the beautiful ward of the aged victim. Kayton has fallen in love with this beautiful young woman at first sight and he is determined that musical comedy ranks, and Biackan White, cartoonist and shadowgraphist. For the last half of the week, beginning with the Thursday matines, the Dunne, playwright and comedian; the dramatic sketch. "When Women Rule, or A. D. 1955," which yet furnishes food for thought upon the modern trend of women; Stevens and Stevens, and Nat-

> Titl's "Slavonic" overture, Ponchiell's "Dance of the Hours," Chaminade's air de ballet "Pierrette," selections from Saint-Saens' "Samson and Delliah," the Raff "Cavatina" and Gottschalk's idvil. "Last Hope" will be some of the selec-tions to be rendered in the orchestral program at the Cosmos concerts today.

Casino-Vaudeville.

The second week's bill under the new policy of the Casino Theater of presentng a headline attraction furnishing en ertainment for about an hour will be ended by the "Southern Beauties," a company of musical comedy and buriesque artists in a farce-musical entitled 'The Widow Green.' The melodious laughmaker has had a successful run in popular vaudeville this season at the higher-priced houses and comes well recommended. In the list of supporting attractions will be found the Kleises, with their amusing boy band leader, and John Zimmer, a new juggler in vaudoville. The added attraction throughout the week, except Sunday evening, will be the country store each night, while at each performance a sebe shown.

The concerts today will present an orchestral program, with new specialties and other attractions.

Majestic-"Australian Beauties," Murphy and Harris' "Austrian Beau-

will be the attraction at the Muties" will be the jestic this week. Two comedies, which will be presented, are entitled "Gay Life in Washington" and "The Hotel Cabaret," and they are brimful of songs, surprises and vaude-ville features. J. Theo. Murphy has the principal comedy role, and supporting him will be Eddie Harris, Corrine De

Forest, Marie Delmar, Pearl Burns, William Smith, and Charles Crafts. The above aggregation of players appear not only in roles written especially

Thirty chorus girls appear with the "Australian Beauties" who are said to be the most bewitching collection of damsels



SCENE FROM TO-DAY" BELASCO.